

WASHINGTON POST

7 MAY 1976

Embassy Staff Blood Is Tested in Moscow

Associated Press

A medical technician is re-testing the staff of the American embassy in Moscow to see if recent heavy doses of microwave radiation caused an increase in white-cell blood counts. State Department officials say.

They would not give figures, but conceded that several embassy officers and staff workers showed higher than average white-cell counts when tested in February.

However, a near epidemic of the flu had swept the embassy then and might have caused the unusually high white cell counts, the officials said.

Now that the flu has passed, the tests are being repeated to see if the radiation the Russians have beamed into the embassy was the cause.

White cells provide immunization against disease and an increase is not necessarily a serious problem, perhaps only indicating that a minor infection is present.

On the other hand, leukemia is an uncontrolled multiplication of white cells.

In any event, the U.S. officials say the possibility of radiation-caused disease has largely passed because of measures taken in recent months.

Quakers Ask Abolition of Spy Groups

Religious News Service

PHILADELPHIA -- A national Quaker organization has called for the abolition of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Internal Security Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The board of directors of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) also called on Congress to prohibit any successor agencies from engaging in surveillance and harassment of citizen's groups that have not taken part in unlawful activities.

"The repeated violations of these agencies' mandates," it said, "have so unmistakably compromised these two bodies that it is certain they are beyond salvage as agencies in which Americans can confidently place their trust."

It added that "the practices which brought these two bodies into disrepute must be unequivocally ended. For the same methods committed by any successor agencies would be as intolerable as if they were undertaken by the CIA or the FBI."

Cuba Plans Fiesta Friends Service To Honor Its Spies

(Committee (AFSC))

MEXICO CITY, May 6 (AP)—The Cuban government is planning a fiesta June 6 in Havana to honor Cuba's secret agents and counterspies.

The Cuban news agency Prensa Latina said yesterday that the fiesta will be one of several commemorating the 15th anniversary of the Interior Ministry.

"The efficient work of the ministry has permitted the Cuban revolution and their top leaders to survive over the years," it said.

It listed among the ministry's achievements the foiling of several plans by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency to assassinate Prime Minister Fidel Castro and overthrow his government.

It did not say if any of the spies would attend the festivities.